

State of Indiana Indiana Department of Correction

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ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Manual of Policies and Procedures

Title

GATEAGE, INTERSTATE COMPACT FEES AND TRANSPORTATION FEES

Legal References	Related Policies/Procedures	Other References
(includes but is not limited to)	(includes but is not limited to)	(includes but is not limited to)
IC 11-10-12-2 IC 11-10-12-3 IC 11-13-4-1 et seq. IC 11-13-4.5-1 et seq.	01-06-101 03-03-101 01-07-101 03-03-102 01-04-105 04-01-104 02-02-102	ACA: ACI: 4-4446

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy and administrative procedure is to provide a mechanism for facilities to provide an offender with funds to meet his/her immediate needs upon release (gateage) and assist an offender to travel to his/her designated destination using public transportation. Additionally, this policy and administrative procedure provide a mechanism for offenders to pay the necessary fees upon requesting to transfer their parole to another state.

II. POLICY STATEMENT:

When an offender is released from the Department, the offender shall be given all available funds in his/her Inmate Trust Fund account. Additionally, the offender's records shall be reviewed to determine whether the offender is eligible to receive monetary assistance upon release from the facility. The facility shall also determine whether the offender is in need of transportation to the approved place of residence upon release.

III. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of these administrative procedures, the following definitions apply:

- A. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR: The administrator at a facility responsible for the coordination and control of fiscal recording and processing.
- B. GATEAGE: The funds provided to an offender pursuant to IC 11-10-12-2 and IC 11-10-12-3 to assist the offender to meet his/her immediate needs upon release from a Department facility.

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- C. IMMEDIATE NEEDS: Those needs, such as food, shelter, clothing or items necessary to secure employment, which an offender must secure immediately upon release in order to be able to function appropriately in the community.
- D. INDIGENT OFFENDER: An offender who has a Trust Fund account balance of less than fifteen dollars (\$ 15.00) on the day of request and has not had a total of more than fifteen dollars (\$ 15.00) credited to his/her Trust Fund account in the preceding thirty (30) days.
- E. INMATE TRUST FUND: The fund established by IC 4-24-6-1 containing money held for an offender while incarcerated in a Department facility or a contract facility housing offenders committed to the Department.
- F. INTERSTATE COMPACT: An agreement entered into by contracting states for cooperative effort and mutual assistance in placing of offenders and other purposes.
- G. TRANSPORTATION FEES: The funds used by the facilities to provide an offender at the time of release with public transportation to a designated location in accordance with IC 11-10-12-2 and IC 11-10-12-3.

IV. GATEAGE

A. ADULT OFFENDERS:

1. Eligibility to Receive Gateage:

The issuance of gateage shall be based upon the needs of the offender at the time of release. There shall be no right to gateage.

Offenders eligible to receive gateage are those released from the Department to:

- a. Parole;
- b. Probation;
- c. Discharge;

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- d. Parole or discharge due to expiration of sentence by the Parole Board after having been returned as an alleged parole violator; or,
- e. Court order, receives a modification of the sentence and returns to the Department for release.
- 2. Offenders not eligible for gateage are those:
 - a. Released on court order;
 - b. Turned over to a new commitment but do not physically leave the Department;
 - c. Turned over to wanting authorities after completing one or more sentences with the Department; or,
 - d. Released on court order and subsequently released from their Department commitment by the court without return to the Department.

3. Payment of Gateage:

Gateage shall be paid from the facility's SDO account by check. Payment by any means other than check shall not be made without the written authorization of the Chief Executive Officer for Finance and Performance.

4. Amount of Gateage:

All facilities, with the exception of Community Re-entry Centers, shall review an offender's Trust Fund account between 60 days and 90 days prior to his/her projected release date. Community Re-entry Centers shall review an offender's account between 30 and 45 days prior to the projected release date.

Staff shall determine the balance in the offender's Trust Fund account. The facility shall attempt to determine whether the offender has any funds on deposit in a financial institution, such as a savings account, checking account, Certificate of Deposit, or other type of account, including mutual funds or other negotiable certificate.

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The staff person conducting this review shall complete State Form 46753, GATEAGE WORK SHEET. (ATTACHMENT I) If the offender has \$ 75.00 or more in available funds in his/her Trust Fund account, no gateage payment shall be authorized. If the offender has less than \$ 75.00 available, the amount necessary to equal \$ 75.00 shall be authorized as the gateage.

(NOTE: If the offender is requesting to be released to out-of-state supervision and the offender has the \$75.00 Interstate Compact Application Fee in his/her Trust Fund account, this money shall not be considered when the gateage is determined. Nor shall money received by the offender for the Interstate Compact Application Fee be used for any other purpose.)

The staff person shall ensure that the offender receives a copy of the completed State Form 46753. The offender shall be advised that any changes thereafter in the offender's Trust Fund account or other money available shall not change the amount of gateage to be granted.

Work Release staff shall complete SF 46753 following a review of the offender's account and this form shall supersede any form previously completed.

The Facility Head shall be the final authority in matters relating to gateage.

5. Exceptions to the Amount of Gateage:

In cases where an adult offender has special circumstances that would indicate that additional gateage is needed, the Facility Head may consider providing the offender with additional gateage beyond the \$ 75.00 limit indicated above. The special circumstances may include:

- a. The offender does not have support from family or friends upon release;
- b. The offender will be provided assistance by the Department in securing a suitable residence;

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- c. The offender has an approved residence out-of-state and has little or no money in his/her Inmate Trust Fund and will need additional funds to support him/herself during the trip to the approved residence; or,
- d. The offender can show proof that additional funds are necessary to meet his/her immediate needs.

In these cases, the offender shall submit a request to the Facility Head indicating the reason why the additional funds are necessary. It is anticipated that these cases will be rare.

If the Facility Head reviews the request and believes it to be appropriate, the Facility Head shall contact the appropriate Regional Director/Operations and make a recommendation as to what should be approved for the offender. Upon receipt of the request and recommendation, the Regional Director shall discuss the request with the Department's Controller. Both the Regional Director and the Controller must approve the request in order for additional gateage to be given to the offender.

The decision of the Regional Director and Controller shall be final.

6. Receipt for Gateage:

At the time of an offender's release, State Form 8473, RECEIPT OF GATEAGE shall be completed and given to the offender. (Attachment II) The receipt shall indicate: the amount of gateage granted; the amount from the Inmate Trust Fund account issued; whether any funds are being held in the Trust Fund account; and, whether the offender received all personal property. This form shall be signed and dated by the offender and witnessed by staff and filed in the offender packet.

Operational procedures shall be developed by all adult facilities to implement the issuance of gateage in accordance with these administrative procedures.

B. <u>JUVENILE OFFENDERS</u>:

1. Eligibility to Receive Gateage:

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Juveniles who are released to live with immediate family members or who have sufficient funds to meet their immediate needs upon release shall not receive gateage. Juveniles shall meet the following criteria to receive gateage:

- a. The juvenile has no source of income from family or friends;
- b. The juvenile will be placed in an individual or group foster home or with a relative to whom per diem is being paid, i.e. kinship care; and,
- c. The juvenile has little or no money available in the Inmate Trust Fund account.

2. Payment of Gateage:

Each facility shall make the appropriate gateage payment (normally no more than \$ 75.00) by means of a facility check. Gateage shall be paid from the facility's SDO account. Payment of gateage shall not be made in any other manner without the written authorization of the Chief Executive Officer for Finance and Performance.

3. Amount of Gateage:

The Business Administrator or designated staff shall review the juvenile's Trust Fund account within fifteen (15) days prior to the release of the juvenile to determine the amount of money available.

The facility shall provide the eligible juvenile with up to \$75.00 to help meet the juvenile's immediate needs and/or to assist the foster placement. The amount of money given the juvenile shall be the amount available in the juvenile's Trust Fund account plus whatever amount is necessary to equal \$75.00.

The Facility Head shall be the final authority in determining whether a juvenile receives gateage and the amount of gateage granted.

4 Exceptions to the Amount of Gateage:

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In cases where a juvenile offender has special circumstances that would indicate that additional gateage is needed, the Facility Head may consider providing the offender with additional gateage beyond the \$75.00 limit indicated above. The special circumstances may include:

- a. The offender does not have support from family or friends upon release;
- b. The offender's approved residence will be in a group or foster home approved by the Department and no other support is available;
- c. The offender has an approved residence out-of-state and has little or no money in his/her Inmate Trust Fund and the offender's family cannot afford to provide the offender with additional funds to support the offender during the trip to the approved out-of-state residence; or,
- d. The offender can show proof that additional funds are necessary to meet his/her immediate needs.

The \$ 75.00 amount may be seasonally adjusted (up to a maximum of \$ 250.00) to ensure that the juvenile may purchase appropriate seasonal wear (i.e. winter wear). The facility may provide the juvenile with donated clothing or clothing obtained from other sources rather than providing the juvenile with additional money to purchase clothing items. Additionally, the facility shall ensure that these juveniles are provided with a package of personal hygiene products. The cost of the additional clothing and hygiene products shall not be deducted from the \$ 75.00 gateage award.

In these cases, the offender shall submit a request to the Facility Head indicating the reason why the additional funds are necessary. It is anticipated that these cases will be rare.

If the Facility Head reviews the request and believes it to be appropriate, the Facility Head shall contact the Director/Juvenile Services and make a recommendation as to what should be approved for the offender. Upon receipt of the request and recommendation, the Director/Juvenile Services shall discuss the request with the Department's Controller. Both the Director and

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the Controller must approve the request in order for additional gateage to be given to the offender.

The decision of the Director/Juvenile Services and Controller shall be final.

4. Receipt for Gateage:

All juveniles released from the department shall be issued a receipt indicating the amount of gateage granted, the amount from the juvenile's Inmate Trust Fund account issued, whether any funds are being held in the juvenile's Trust Fund account and whether the juvenile received all personal property. This form shall be signed and dated by the juvenile and witnessed by a staff member. State Form 8473, RECEIPT OF GATEAGE, shall be used for this purpose. (ATTACHMENT II) This form shall be filed in the juvenile's packet.

Operational procedures shall be developed by all juvenile facilities to implement the issuance of gateage in accordance with these administrative procedures.

V. INTERSTATE COMPACT RELEASES:

Offenders who are being released to parole or probation and who desire to be released to another state are required to apply for supervision through the Interstate Compact for the Supervision of Parolees and Probationers. Staff shall ensure that all necessary applications are prepared and submitted in accordance with the administrative procedures for Policy 01-04-105, "Adult Offender Releases"

Offenders requesting parole or probation supervision in another state shall be required to pay an application fee for these services. At the time that the offender completes the Application for Interstate Compact services, the offender shall complete the INTERSTATE COMPACT APPLICATION FEE ACKNOWLEDGMENT form (ATTACHMENT III). By signing this form, the offender agrees to the withdrawal of \$ 75.00 from his/her Trust Fund account to pay the application fee. It shall be explained to the offender that this fee is non-refundable and that the offender must agree to pay this fee before his/her application will be processed.

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When processing the offender's application for services, designated staff shall review the offender's Trust Fund. If the offender has more than \$ 75.00 in his/her Inmate Trust Fund account, staff shall advise the offender that \$ 75.00 will be deducted from his/her account for the application fee. If the offender has \$ 75.00 or less in his/her Inmate Trust Fund account, it shall be explained to the offender that the application will be processed; however, the application fee must be paid within 30 days from the date that the offender is released and leaves the State of Indiana. It shall also be explained to the offender that failure to pay this application fee could result in the offender being required to return to the State of Indiana.

In no case will any amount of gateage provided to an offender be used to pay the application fee. Nor will any offender be released to go to another state with no funds in his/her possession. Staff shall review the offender's Trust Fund account and the GATEAGE WORKSHEET to determine the amount of funds available to the offender upon release. If the offender will be released with less that \$75.00 (Trust Fund balance and any approved gateage), the offender shall be provided additional gateage funds so that the offender will have \$75.00 at the time of his/her release.

VI. RELEASE TRANSPORTATION TO DESIGNATED DESTINATION:

Any offender being released, who meets the applicable criteria in procedure IV A 1 or IV B 1, shall be eligible to be provided transportation by the Department to a designated destination within the State of Indiana if the offender does not have other means of transportation to his/her destination. The facility may

- Provide the offender with transportation using a Department-owned vehicle;
- Provide the offender with public transportation at state expense; or,
- Provide any other type of transportation deemed appropriate by the facility.

The Facility Head or designee shall determine what type of transportation is provided to the offender based on cost and the safety of the offender and the public.

If the offender is provided with public transportation, it shall be to the city or town in Indiana nearest to the offender's approved place of residence or at the request of the offender to any other place approved by the Facility Head within the State of Indiana. Upon the offender's request and a determination by the facility, the facility shall procure a non-refundable bus ticket to the location

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nearest to the offender's approved destination. An offender shall not be entitled to receive payment in lieu of the transportation provided by the facility.

The facility shall make arrangements with the public transportation company to ensure that the ticket is not refunded for cash and that the facility is credited for any ticket not used.

When an offender's approved placement is in a county bordering another state and public transportation is the most appropriate method of transport, the facility shall contact the local bus company and determine the bus stop closest to the offender's approved placement. When possible the facility shall provide a bus ticket to a destination within the State of Indiana; however, if the nearest bus stop is in a city bordering Indiana (e.g., Louisville, KY) the facility shall procure a bus ticket to that city.

In those cases where the nearest bus stop is in a bordering state, facility staff shall advise the offender of this situation. Staff shall advise the offender that an out-of-state travel permit must be completed and signed by the facility Release Coordinator and the offender in accordance with the administrative procedures for Policy 01-04-105, "Adult Offender Releases." The offender's signature shall be witnessed by a staff person. A copy of the completed form with an original signature shall be forwarded to the Department's Interstate Compact Administrator who shall notify the other state and a copy retained in the offender's facility packet.

The supervising parole agent or probation officer shall be notified if the destination of the offender is: (1) not the approved county of residence; or, (2) more than forty (40) miles from the approved home placement.

Offenders who are released to out-of-state parole supervision or discharged may upon request, be given a bus ticket to: (1) the state line closest their final destination; or, (2) to any other location in the State of Indiana approved by the Facility Head. Transportation provided to offenders paroling out-of-state or offenders who are discharged shall be consistent with these procedures.

The facility may provide the offender with a small amount of cash from the offender's Trust Fund account or from the approved gateage amount, not to exceed \$25.00, if the offender is traveling for a lengthy period of time on public transportation before arriving at his/her approved destination. At the discretion of the Facility Head, this amount may be raised or lowered if the Facility Head believes this amount of cash is not adequate to meet the needs of the offender during his/her period of travel. Offenders may be eligible to receive this cash if they:

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- A. Are taking public transportation to an approved destination; and,
- B. Will be in travel status, including layovers, for a period of three (3) hours or more.

If this cash is taken from the offender's Inmate Trust Fund, the facility shall ensure that there are sufficient funds in the offender's Inmate Trust Fund account to cover the cash amount given. The cash may be drawn from the facility's SDO account cash box, if applicable, or the facility may make arrangements to have a check from the offender's Trust Fund account cashed. The offender shall be required to sign a receipt for this cash. If money is drawn from the facility's SDO account cash box, the facility shall write a check from the offender's Trust Fund account to reimburse the SDO account before the offender is released. The facility's business office or accounting staff shall handle these transactions. However, staff releasing the offender may give the cash to the offender as part of the release process.

If an offender is given a cash amount from his/her Trust Fund account, the offender shall be given the remainder of the available funds in the form of a check drawn on the facility's Inmate Trust Fund account. The cash amount given to an offender shall be included when the amount of gateage, if any, is determined.

If the cash is taken from the offender's gateage, staff shall determine the amount of gateage to which the offender is entitled. If the offender is to receive any gateage, the cash for use during the travel period may be deducted from the total amount of gateage to be given to the offender, if the offender does not have adequate funds in his/her Inmate Trust Fund account. Unless the offender is to be given \$ 25.00 or less in gateage, the remaining portion of the gateage shall be given to the offender in the form of a gateage check.

Operational Procedures shall be developed for the issuance of transportation fees and providing offenders with cash for public transportation in accordance with these administrative procedures.

VII. APPLICABILITY:

This policy and its administrative procedures are applicable to all Department facilities.

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J. David Donahue		
Commissioner		
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